

Relevant Legislation Affecting the Education of the Gifted

Recent legislation passed by the Virginia General Assembly is summarized below. Since 1998, several pieces of legislation have passed that modify some regulations and offer school divisions additional service opportunities.

1999 — House Bill 2415: This legislation changed the reporting function of the local advisory committees:

That § 22.1-18.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 22.1-18.1. Annual report on gifted education required; local advisory committee on gifted education.

Each local school board shall submit the annual report, "Programs for Gifted Education," as required by Board regulations, to the Department of Education.

Each school board shall appoint, in accordance with the regulations of the Board of Education, a local advisory committee on gifted education. The local advisory committee on gifted education shall annually review the local plan for the education of gifted students, including revisions, and determine the extent to which the plan for the previous year was implemented. *The comments and recommendations of the local advisory committee on gifted education shall be submitted in writing directly to the school board and the superintendent.*

A school board shall comply with Board regulations governing gifted education relative to the use of multiple criteria for the identification of gifted students.

With such funds as may be appropriated for this purpose, the Department of Education shall conduct an annual review of all local gifted education programs, on such date as it may determine, to ensure full implementation and compliance with federal and state laws and regulations governing gifted education. The Department may conduct the review as an on-site observation or require certification of compliance from the division superintendent.

The first information in italics supersedes the current Board of Education regulation. VR 270-01-0002 Part II. Section 4, B. The second information in italics was added in 1998 and served as the impetus by the Department of Education to reformat and restructure the Annual Report and the Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted that divisions must submit. Copies of these documents are accessible through the Gifted Website at www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Instruction/Gifted/xxx.

2000 – House Bill 1196: This legislation allows school divisions to establish a procedure that permits qualified students, with the recommendation of the division superintendent, to obtain credit for a class upon demonstration of mastery of the course content and objectives, without completing the 140-hour class. Having received credit for the course, the student will be permitted to sit for the relevant Standards of Learning assessment and, upon receiving a passing score, will earn a verified credit.

2000 – House Bill 1406: This legislation extended the Virginia Gifted Education Pilot Program until July 1, 2003. While the bill passed the General Assembly, no appropriations were tied to the program. For more information, see 1998 Session, HB 1288 by accessing searchable databases through Legislative Information System at the following Website: www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/PolicyPub/legis98/home.html.

2000 – Senate Bill 289: This legislation includes language in A.2 that require "persons seeking initial

licensure on and after July 1, 2000 to complete study in attention deficit disorder and gifted education, including the use of multiple criteria to identify gifted students.

2000 – Senate Bill 654: This legislation extended the Virginia Gifted Education Consortium until July 1, 2003. While the bill passed the General Assembly, no appropriations were tied to the program. For more information, see 1999 Session, SB 1200 by accessing searchable databases through the Legislative Information System at following Website: www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/PolicyPub/legis98/home.html.